

DODGE COUNTY EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE DODGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

February 15, 2021

The Dodge County Extension Education Committee of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors met Monday, February 15, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. on the 1st Floor Auditorium in the Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Allen Behl – District 19, called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. with the following members present: Jenifer Hedrick (present via Zoom) – District 22; Russell Kottke – Dodge County Board of Supervisors Chair. Chairman Behl noted that Supervisor Kottke’s attendance provided a quorum.

Also present: Area Extension Director Jeff Hoffman and Extension Dodge County department lead Tracy Malterer.

Also present via Zoom: Pattie Carroll, Human Development & Relationships Educator; Kimberly Lafler, FoodWise Nutrition Educator; Caitlin Richardson, FoodWise Nutrition Coordinator; Marie Witzel, Positive Youth Development Educator; and Amanda Young, Dairy and Livestock Educator.

Absent: Naomi Kriewald – District 9; Travis Schultz – District 25; Annette Thompson – Dodge County School District Superintendent;

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Behl, second by Hedrick to approve the December 21, 2020 minutes as printed. Motion carried 3-0.

REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT REVENUE AND EXPENSES: Review and discussion of the Division of Extension - Dodge County revenues and expenses for December 2020 and January 2021 as presented.

APPROVAL OF PER DIEMS OF EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE FOR FEBRUARY 15, 2021: Chairperson Behl reviewed the per diem sheets as listed. Motion by Hedrick, second by Behl to approve per diems as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

UPDATE ON DIVISION OF EXTENSION FROM AREA DIRECTOR: Hoffman reported that preliminary interviews for a Soil Health Specialist for Dodge and Fond du Lac counties are underway. Final interviews are scheduled for March 11, likely conducted via Zoom. Behl discussed the interview process and panelist make-up. Hoffman is planning for the specialist to give a soil health presentation at the April County Board meeting along with county partners who have been working with soil health programming. Hoffman also reported that the 2020 Extension Dodge County Annual Report and video will be presented at the March 15 County Board meeting.

SHORT ORAL REPORTS BY EXTENSION EDUCATORS:

Pattie Carroll, Human Development & Relationships Educator – Carroll reported on her January programming which included three Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) seminars. Carroll partnered with Beaver Dam Unified School District and the Parent Resource Place to provide the parenting program. Triple P is an evidenced based curriculum that Carroll is certified to teach. The program was brought to Dodge and Jefferson counties through a grant from the Wisconsin Prevention Board part of the Department of Children and Families. Carroll also taught a six week program called Encouraging Financial Conversations (EFC). EFC is a program for helping professionals from places like Human Social Services, and other family serving agencies who work with families. EFC provides strategies for professionals to work with their clients to increase their clients’ financial stability. This program leverages Extension resources through capacity building.

Kimberly Lafler, FoodWise Educator & Caitlin Richardson, FoodWise Coordinator - FoodWise Educator Kimberly Lafler and FoodWise Coordinator Caitlin Richardson explained that standard practice for virtually delivered education is to have two FoodWise educators available at the events. This allows for one to deliver the content of the lessons and the other to watch and navigate the behind-the-scenes things such as advancing slides, watching the chat for questions, and preparing videos to be shared. This allows for things to continue with only slight hitches if there are any unforeseen technology issues.

Lafler reported that virtual lessons with several area elementary schools are being well received by students and teachers. Some of the students are all in the classroom with Lafler and Richardson appearing virtually and some of the lessons are being taught with students, teachers and the educators being all at different locations. One of the teachers reached out to Lafler "the kids really enjoy this! (They need the change in pace) So I am happy it is working!" Students and parent groups both have demonstrated engagement in these lessons.

FoodWise is also working on activities that are not direct teaching. Lafler reported the continued mentoring of a fellow FoodWise Educator. Both Richardson and Lafler sit on the Food Environment Committee for Blue Zones and are meeting monthly with the group to advance Blue Zones efforts in Dodge County. Richardson is working with a group to install raised garden beds near the ReStore in Beaver Dam. Lastly, FoodWise is going to start working on the three-year plan in the next month or so.

Marie Witzel, Positive Youth Development Educator – Witzel reported on programming and impacts from January. She has completed 4 team award applications for the Wisconsin Association of Extension Youth Development Professionals and 3 were confirmed as the state winner and will go on to the national association. She also worked with teams to submit teaching proposals at the National 4-H Youth Development Agents Conference this fall. She shared a copy of the Friday Focus which has included a quote from a parent about the project kits. "Definitely worth a try to keep the little ones engaged on a crummy day! Some things are quick and easy while others take some time. Some little adult help needed is and some take adult help to operate safely and understand." The Friday Focus is emailed to 4-H Families and can be found at <https://dodge.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-newsletter-calendar/>

Amanda Young, Dairy and Livestock Educator – Young discussed some of the programs she has been working on. The first is the *Badger Dairy Insight* series that started in December and continues to run through the end of March featuring state specialists and county educators. The series in total will contain 15 webinar programs featuring topics from farm safety to animal welfare and dairy nutrition. Second, Young discussed a marketing program she is working on with Area 16 and Area 14 colleagues entitled "Marketing with Confidence." This will be a Zoom program on alternating Tuesdays and Thursdays, crops and livestock marketing. Finally, Young discussed the Youth Tractor Safety Certification course she is co-hosting in March with Marie Witzel. This course will meet the Wisconsin state and federal guidelines for youth tractor and machinery certification for 12 to 16-year-old youth. This year's program will be a mix of virtual (in-person) programing, self-study, and hands-on driving tests.

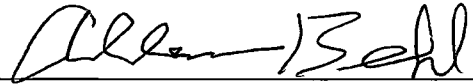
NEXT MEETING DATE: The next regularly scheduled Extension Education Committee meeting is Monday, March 15, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in the 1st Floor Auditorium of the Dodge County Administration Building at 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, Wisconsin.

Chairman Behl held discussion on exploring alternate meeting times to accommodate Committee members who are unable to make an 8:30am meeting. The Extension office will send a Doodle Poll to all Committee members and Extension educators to explore availability for different meeting times.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before this Committee, the meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Behl at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Naomi Kriewald, Secretary



Allen Behl, Chairperson